

INTERNATIONAL FOLK HIGH SCHOOL

In Denmark

GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY PARTY KNOWLEDGE CAMPUS POLITICS INNOVATION ALTERNATIVE EARTH LEARN DENMARK CELEBRATE PASSION INSPIRATION STUDIES
POLITICS INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING SUBJECTS CREATIVE EDUCATION CULTURE ENGLISH
FOLK HIGH SCHOOL
EQUALITY SUSTAINABILITY
NATIONALITIES CITIZENSHIP DIVERSITY SOCIETY DISCOVER TRAVEL
HØJSKOLE VALUES ACTIVE SEMESTER HUMAN RIGHTS

INTERNATIONAL

SINCE 1921

DEMOCRACY ETHNICITY MINDFUL GROWTH ACADEMY PROGRESS COUNTRIES RESPECT COMMUNITY EXPLORE LOVE
EMPOWERMENT FRIENDSHIP
WORLD EXPERIENCE AWARENESS
ELSINORE DEVELOPMENT
STUDY CLASSES TOGETHER
DEMOCRACY CHANGE
PEACE
FUN



**INTERNATIONAL
PEOPLE'S COLLEGE**
DEN INTERNATIONALE HØJSKOLE



About International People's College

International People's College (IPC) is a Folk High School in Denmark with students from all over the world. We focus on global studies, cultural exchange, and self-development.

IPC was founded in the wake of World War I with the belief that world peace is created through understanding. If people from around the world got to know each other better they would discover that they shared a basic human empathy. With this knowledge people could love and help each other. Nearly a century later this same idea drives us and is the basis of the work of our Folk High School in Denmark. Diversity enrich our lives and expand our horizons. It helps us see the world in a new and inspiring light, from which we can all learn.

By bringing people together from different cultures to study, socialize and live together we strive to create tolerant global citizens.

In 1988 International People's College had the great honour and privilege of being appointed an official United Nations Peace Messenger by then Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar. We try, everyday, to honour this tribute by encouraging peaceful co-existence at the school and beyond. We bring people from around the world together to live, love and learn.

Meet the World in Denmark

Living and learning with people from the whole world is inspiring and enriching in every way. It provides you with a unique chance to explore a wide range of different cultures - and to learn about yourself. How do you think, feel, believe and act differently from people in other parts of the world - and how are we all alike?

At IPC we offer a broad global perspective - and we try to help you find yourself. Our goal is to challenge you in various ways. What makes you happy? What are your special talents? Where do you want to go in life?

We hope you will find it meaningful to engage with other people and help to create a more peaceful, sustainable and fair development of our planet. In return we will show you an alternative way of learning and provide a fantastic network of fascinating friends from all over the world.

Søren Launbjerg, Principal



As the only fully International Folk High School in Denmark IPC is unique. Established as a peace initiative after WWI and appointed an official United Nations Peace Messenger in 1988.



“I chose to study at IPC because of the core values. I am really interested in all of them but especially in sustainability. And here you actually work with them in class.”

(Olivia, Denmark)



What is a Folk High School?

How do you explain something that's really inexplicable? The short answer is that a Folk High School is a non-formal school for adults, where a strong emphasis is put on general mind broadening education. It is a boarding school, so you sleep, eat, and study at the school.

However, that's just a tiny part of the story. A Folk High School is much more than education. It's a school for life, a buzzing campus where you live and discover yourself together with other students. Where you find out that the most important things in life cannot be taught - they have to be experienced.

Folk High Schools in Denmark can be traced back to the middle of the 19th century when they were set up for rural communities. Today there are around 70 Folk High Schools

in Denmark. Many specialize in different subjects from art to music to filmmaking to journalism. Folk High Schools are an important part of Danish life and civil society. They began with the notion that an informed society is essential for a functioning democracy. Folk High Schools have promoted engagement within a wide range of issues and have encouraged Denmark's robust and responsible democracy.

IPC is unique as the only fully international Folk High School in Denmark, with all classes and activities in English.

"It is hard to explain what a Folk High School is. You have to experience it. I realized that you can't force teaching on someone if they don't want to learn."

(Ly, Vietnam, Former IPC student)

Core Values at IPC

At International People's College we are guided by a set of core values. These can be summed up in six words of equal importance:

respect, equality, democracy, peace, empathy, sustainability

We work actively and explicitly with these values in our classes and we try to create an atmosphere where these ideals are not only words and beliefs, but something that comes into action in our everyday lives at IPC. Through our core values we strive to educate active global citizens.

Subjects and Classes

IPC promotes diversity and a global approach to understanding the world. To IPC world peace is not a half-baked dream but a real process, putting into practice the truism that the world is what we make it to be. Many of the courses offered work with notions of global citizenship and a sense of shared responsibility.

Classes at IPC are designed to challenge and stimulate you. Without the stress of exams, grades and a strict curriculum, we offer you an opportunity to find out what you are really good at and what makes you happy at the same time. You'll discover and explore your strengths in a safe and friendly environment.

Thanks to our teachers from all over the world, we can offer a wide range of subjects. All classes are taught in English with a focus on global and regional studies, personal development, professional skills, communication, and creativity.

IPC offers more than 40 different subjects each term and you can create a timetable to suit your particular passions and interests. See a full list of all our classes and read more about how to create your schedule at ipc.dk

**Create you own
schedule from a curriculum
with more than 40 different classes**





Cultural Evenings

Saturday night cultural evenings have been a custom at IPC for decades. You will discover traditions from all over the world you never knew existed.

Students are divided into groups depending on where in the world they come from, and together they arrange a show presenting different parts of their cultural background for the whole school.

The students spend about two weeks preparing for the event. A teacher is assigned to facilitate the whole process but the students are in charge of coming up with a script defining how and what they want to portray.

You will discover unique cultural traditions, see dances, hear songs, poetry, acting etc. – and the most interesting part is that you will be introduced to hidden little treasures

you cannot discover as a tourist when you visit a country. We call it educational entertainment. Learning while having fun. The students who are hosting the cultural evening learn about coordination, event planning, putting together a script, etc. The audience learn valuable information about other places in the world in a fun and entertaining way.

Cultural evenings take place once a month every term and celebrate diversity, colourfulness, respect and admiration for different cultures. It is a way to expand your horizons and learn about cultures from the inside out.



Student Body

Each term more than 90 students from around 30 different countries gather at IPC. The average age is approximately 24 years, but we strive to have students in all ages to create a diverse student body. We regularly have a few students in the retirement age, which always is considered a huge bonus at the school.

Students at IPC do often create a lot of extra clubs and activities - such as language clubs, 'green clubs', film clubs, game clubs, and various food clubs etc.



Community Living

Everyday life at IPC evolves around the classes you choose, but there will be plenty of other activities going on. Both organized events and activities that just spontaneously happen. A student from India might show you how to make authentic Dahl, a movie enthusiast can show you his or hers favourite Vietnamese film, or some students might play Ping-Pong in the gym... while others are doing yoga in the backyard of the school.

We have a café, where students meet for book clubs, photo practise, or to play board games. We also have our own second-hand shop, a costume room, a small cinema, and bikes you can borrow if you want to explore the beautiful beaches near the school together with your new friends.

At IPC we are a small community and we all take part in the duties at the school together. Like for example doing the dishes, setting the tables, cleaning different areas at campus, chopping wood for the fireplace etc.

All students are a part of a 'Contact Group' who have different responsibilities and do social activities together with their anchor teacher.

In the weekends some students like to go clubbing in Copenhagen, while others are 'binging' series on Netflix. Some mandatory events, like for example Cultural Evenings or class excursions are happening during weekends, but you will have a lot of time to do exactly what you love to do – whether you need a little time on your own or want to do something together with fellow students.

Everyone's experience is different and it is impossible to predict what you will gain from being a student at IPC. One thing is for sure – you will live together with people that are very different from yourself. People with different backgrounds, lifestyles, ideas, and points of view. People from the opposite side of the planet.



What you can expect from IPC

Being a student at IPC is a rare experience that will bring you hundreds of invaluable moments and a lot more:

- Skills, knowledge and attitudes you can use to live and work across borders and cultures
- Significant experiences and competencies essential to your future studies, in particularly within the areas of International Relations, Development Studies, Social Sciences, Sustainability and Anthropology
- Highly improved English skills
- A unique chance to think about and plan ahead for your future
- A chance to challenge yourself in various ways and develop yourself in the direction you want to go





What we will expect from you

It is important that you arrive to IPC with an open mind and an interest in learning about other people and cultures.

We believe what you put into your surroundings are given back to you. Sometimes it can be hard work to create a new life in another country and you have to be motivated to connect with other people, to attend classes, to participate in the community living at campus etc. Don't expect to sit back and wait for the IPC experience to 'happen to you' – be active and dedicated, then everything will unfold.

There is no 'pass' or 'fail' at this school, but we want all of our students to respect each other and our core values. Other than that a basic level of English is required to follow the classes and the activities at campus.

NB. You have to be 17,5 years to apply to IPC.



Location - Helsingør in Denmark

IPC is located in Helsingør (known in English as Elsinore) in Denmark, not far from the capital Copenhagen.

Denmark

Denmark is one of the Nordic nations in northern Europe. It is a democratic country and member of the European Union and also, a monarchy. Though small in population - a little less than 6 million people live in Denmark - it is a dynamic nation renowned for innovation, design and cultural production.

Outside of the major population areas, Denmark has a strong rural character, beautiful nature and seemingly endless coastline. The capital Copenhagen is known the world over as a trendsetter; as cozy and friendly as it is progressive.

Helsingør

Helsingør is a city in northern eastern Denmark with a population of around 60,000 people. Helsingør is known for its castle Kronborg, which William Shakespeare presumably had in mind for his famous play Hamlet.

Helsingør has a lot of old architecture and wonderful beaches and nature spots. More than that a lot of fantastic museums are close by - amongst them the famous art museum, Louisiana, in Humlebæk. It is easy to go to Copenhagen - the train leaves every 20 minutes and you will be in the capital in around 45 minutes.

The World's Happiest People?

Danes are often regarded as the world's happiest people. To some extent several popular studies attribute this to the fact that the Danish society is built on trust - even in people you don't know - as well as a strong sense of empowerment, the ability to change something in your own life or even in society if you are not entirely satisfied.



'Hygge' goes far in illuminating the Danish soul. In essence, hygge means creating a warm atmosphere and enjoying the good things in life with good people.



What do the students say?

"I have always been passionate about starting a NGO back home, and I wanted to learn more about that at IPC. I developed these goals with excellent classes, but the entire stay at IPC made me grow as a person!"

Amandeep, India

"IPC broadened my perspective more than I would have ever imagined possible. It gave me friends for life and I have often visited the school since, and still meet up with people from IPC everywhere in Europe."

Esben Asmussen, Denmark

"I learned a lot about the most important things in life, and found out that the best greeting simply is a smile - everybody understands that. IPC gave me intense colours and values, which I am happy to share with people in my country, as well as the rest of the world."

Bojana Ilic, Bosnia

"To be a student at IPC is much like living in a small global village with people from all over the world. Everybody is gathered to experience new cultures and learn from one another. I'm so happy to see that my geography has been vastly expanded by attending IPC."

Elias Thabit Tengesa, Tanzania

"Back home in Vietnam I am a musician, but I wanted to get some new input in life. Learn something else. My friend told me about IPC. She said it was heaven. Exactly how she could not explain. So I came to learn about it and experience it for myself. She was right."

Ly, Vietnam

"The friendliest place on earth! One of the best life experiences anyone can have. You can't go to IPC and not see the world differently."

Lena, Australia

"IPC is an outstanding place to meet new people with different conditions, ages, backgrounds and cultures. It is so inspiring to meet and talk with so many different people. I will be back for sure (and the food was really good!)."

Miyuki Abe, Japan

The best six months of my life! The experience that I got, the things that I learned and the amazing international family that I now have, I would never trade that for anything!

Anna Priede- Kļaviņa, Latvia



“I came to IPC because I was a bit lost about my future... Honestly it was the best choice in my life! You meet people who open your mind and you learn so much about life. I was a pretty shy person before I came here, and now I’m in peace with myself and know myself much better. I made friends for life, and if I could start all over again – I would do it in a heartbeat!” (Margeurite, France)

GLOBAL
RESPONSIBILITY PARTY
KNOWLEDGE CAMPUS
POLITICS INNOVATION ALTERNATIVE EARTH LEARN
EMPATHY INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING CULTURE ENGLISH
FOLK HIGH SCHOOL SUBJECTS CREATIVE EDUCATION
EQUALITY SUSTAINABILITY
NATIONALITIES CITIZENSHIP DIVERSITY SOCIETY DISCOVER TRAVEL
HØJSKOLE VALUES ACTIVE SEMESTER HUMAN RIGHTS
INTERNATIONAL
DEMOCRACY ETHNICITY MINDFUL GROWTH **SINCE 1921** COMMUNITY EXPLORE LOVE
ACADEMY PROGRESS COUNTRIES **RESPECT**
EMPOWERMENT FRIENDSHIP
WORLD EXPERIENCE AWARENESS
ELSINORE **DEVELOPMENT**
STUDY CLASSES TOGETHER
DEMOCRACY CHANGE
PEACE
FUN



International People's College
Montebello Allé 1
3000 Helsingør
Denmark

+45 49 21 33 61
ipc@ipc.dk

ipc.dk

